

Docket No. UCIP403  
US App. No. 10/735,202

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## REMARKS

### Status of the Application

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wrasman et al. (US 4,172,583) in view of Qurik et al. (US 3,857,546).

Applicant has amended claim 1 and added new claim 2. No new matter adds through the amendments. For the reasons discussed below, withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

### Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wrasman et al. (US 4,172,583) in view of Qurik et al. (US 3,857,546).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for the reasons discussed below. Nevertheless, Applicant has amended claim 1 to more clearly define the invention.

Claim 1 recites a three-way valve comprising a body provided with a plurality of cylindrical passageways each with a predetermined uniform diameter for liquid to flow in and out. Wrasman does not teach these features. Wrasman teaches a two-way valve, but he fails to teach a three-way valve. More importantly, Wrasman does not teach cylindrical passageways with a uniform diameter. Wrasman teaches that "[T]he inlet and outlet bores are cylindrical except for a slightly outward taper for easy withdrawal of the tools that are used to form them after molding is complete". Col. 3, lines 11-14. Wrasman requires that the inlet and outlet bores have a slightly outward taper for easy withdrawal of the tools. Therefore, Wrasman teaches against cylindrical passageways with a predetermined uniform diameter. Qurik does not teach a three-way valve either.

For the reasons discussed above, claim 1 is believed patentable over Wrasman and Qurik.

### New Claim

New claim 2 has been added. Claim 2 recites that the valve has a projection at its bottom

Docket No. UCIP403  
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portion opposite to the shaft, the projection engages with a recess in a bottom wall of the chamber. Support for claim 2 can be found in Fig. 7. It is believed that the features recited in claim 2 are not taught by the cited references.

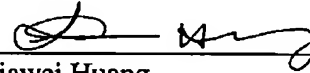
### Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-2 are now in condition for allowance. Allowance of this application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted  
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